seasonal agricultural operations is followed by the cooperatives as well as commercial banks. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) pro-vided finance to the cooperative banks and Regional Rural Banks for financing seasonal agricultural operations.

Opening of Mobile Banks in Rural areas

945. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of FINANQE be pleased to state :

(a) whether mobile banks have been opened in rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, what are the names of these areas district-wise as on 20th April, 1993;

(c) whether some services are being provided by these banks;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and if not what are the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government propose to set up such more banks in rural areas of the country during the current as well as during the next year; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof and if not what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (f) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the opening of mobile branches by banks is a subject decided by the banks themselves and RBI does not fix any targets for that purpose. Mobile branches are generally allowed in rural and semiurban areas where fulfledged branches are not viable but banking facilities are required to be provided for reasons of spatial gap. Mobile bank services are provided with the existing branch of the bank functioning as base branch. The number of mobile branches of commercial banks functioning in rural areas of the country is not readily available. As per the records of RBI, they have not received any request for operating mobile branches with existing branch used as a base branch.

World Bank aid for the Social Safely net programme

946. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE :

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state -.

(a) whether it is a fact that World Bank has provided Rs. 1500 crores as aid for the social safety net programme to compensate for last year's budgetary cut in this sector;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the amount of the fund already spent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) The Government of India have received commitments equivalent to US $ 590.56 million from IDA, the USA and the Netherlands for Key Social Sector Programmes which deal with Primary Education, Primary Health Care, disease control, nutrition and the National Renewal Fund.

(c) Disbursements under the programme upto 31-3-93 were US $ 275.430 million.

Scheme for Funding and Subsidising Export Market Development

947. SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) wheher there is any scheme with 'any of the Public Sector Financial Insti-